Someday I will be punished.
Because I can't wish for the happiness of the one I love.

胸の炎

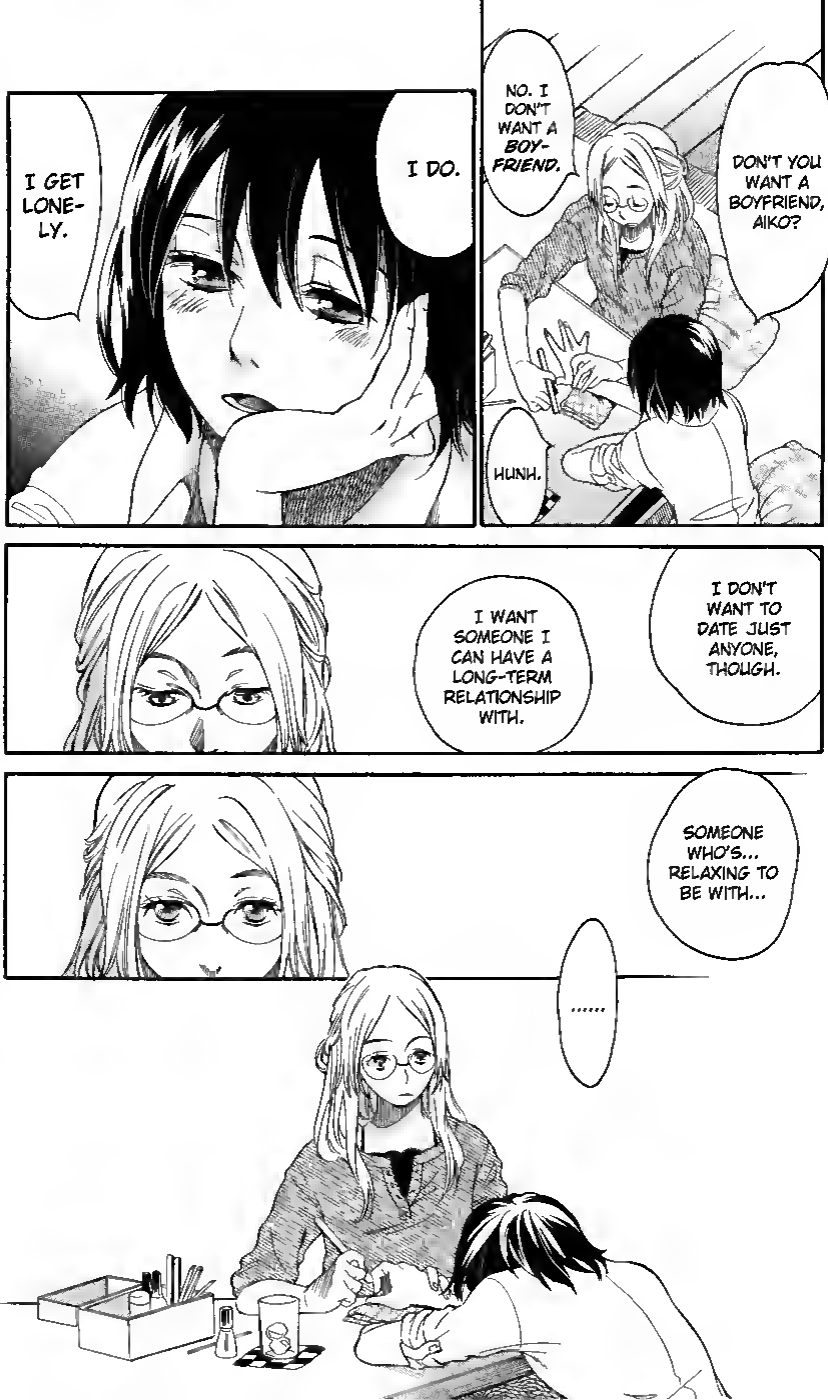
Heart Ablaze

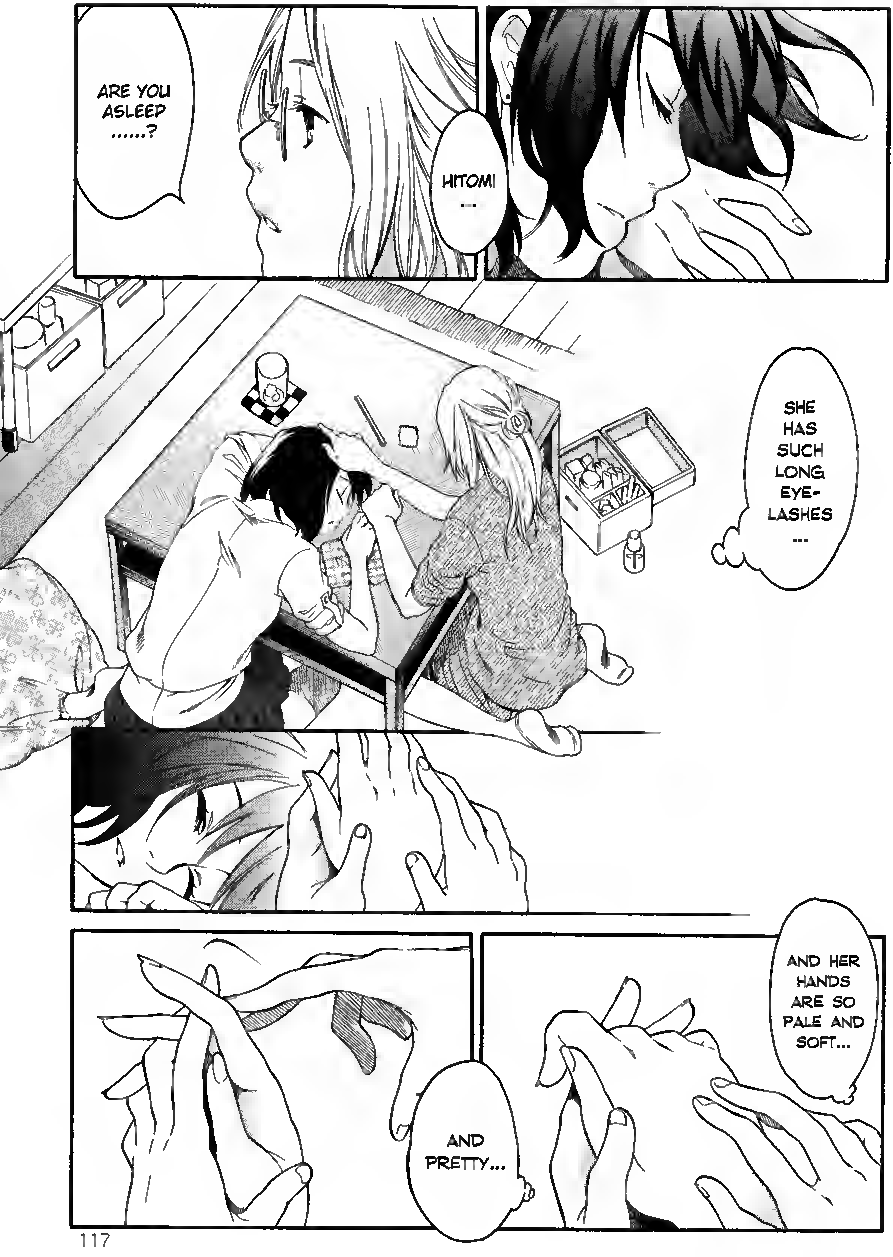
MIYAUCHI YUUKA

WHY DO YOU DRINK SO MUCH? YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T HOLD YOUR LIQUOR.
HIC.
YEAH, SORRY I'M ALWAYS CRASHING HERE. THE LAST TRAIN'S ALREADY GONE.
YOUR PLACE IS CLOSE ENOUGH
THAT YOU COULD WALK, HITOMI.
BUT I'D BE LONELY IF I WAS ALL BY MYSELF.
HIC
AND
I WANTED TO SEE YOUR FACE, AIKO.

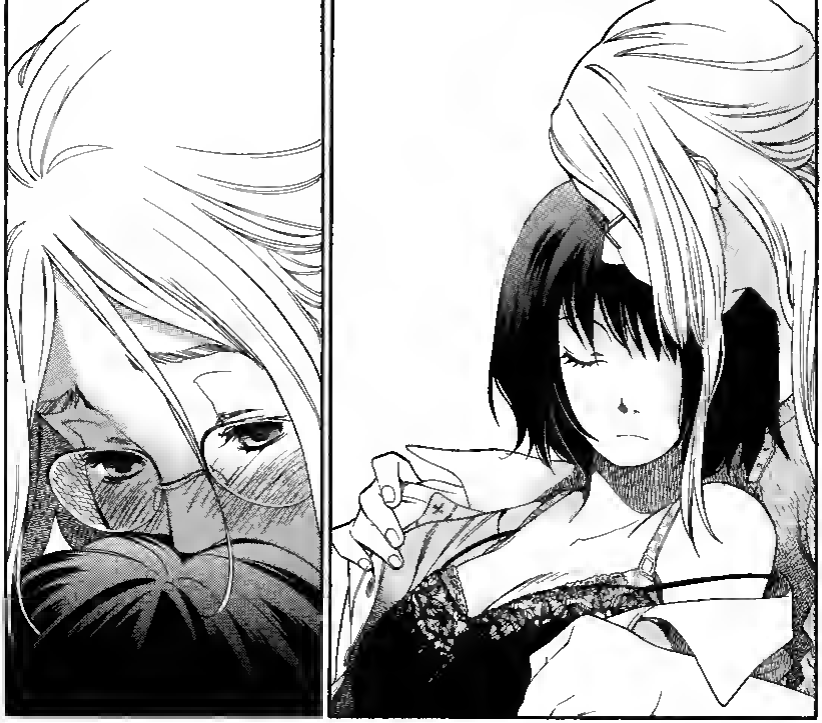
OKAY,
BUT YOU'VE BEEN STAYING OVER A LOT THIS MONTH, YOU KNOW.
MM...
THE TRUTH IS,
I'M KINDA INTO SOMEONE IN ONE OF MY SEMINARS.
WHEN THE CLASS GOES OUT FOR DRINKS, HE ALWAYS COMES ALONG.
I'M ON PINS AND NEEDLES WHENEVER I HAVE A ONE-SIDED CRUSH
THAT'S WHY I'M CRASHING HERE SO MUCH CAN I TELL YOU ABOUT IT?
.....
OKAY, IF YOU
LET ME
DO YOUR NAILS.

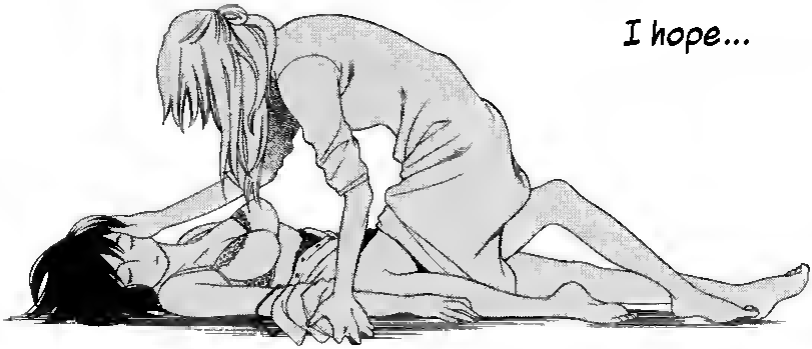
YOU'RE PRACTICING A LOT, HUH?
I'M ALWAYS GETTING COMPLI-MENTS ON MY NAILS
'CAUSE YOU DO THEM SO WELL.
.....
I'M GETTING BETTER
BECAUSE I HAVE YOU AS A GUINEA PIG.


DON'T YOU WANT A BOYFRIEND, AIKO?
NO. I DON'T WANT A BOY-FRIEND.
HUNH.
I DO.
I GET LONE-LY.
I DON'T WANT TO DATE JUST ANYONE, THOUGH.
I WANT SOMEONE I CAN HAVE A LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP WITH.
SOMEONE WHO'S... RELAXING TO BE WITH...
.....


ARE YOU ASLEEP .....?
HITOMI ...
SHE HAS SUCH LONG EYE-LASHES ...
AND HER HANDS ARE SO PALE AND SOFT...
AND PRETTY...

You're practicing a lot, huh?
IT MEANS I GET TO TOUCH HER HANDS...
HITOMI ...
MM ...
snap
snap...





she never holds any guy's interest for long.

I HUNG UP YOUR CLOTHES FOR YOU.
OH, NO... DID I FALL ASLEEP OUT THERE AGAIN?
I'M GONNA BORROW YOUR SHOWER, OKAY?
MMH.
YOU'RE PLANNING TO WEAR THEM TO CLASS TODAY, RIGHT?
THEY'LL GET *WRINKLED* IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL.

THANKS FOR EVE-RYTHING!
AIKOO!
HMM?
I'M USING YOUR TOWEL, OKAY?
TMP
I'M FULL OF WICKED THOUGHTS.
I don't deserve her thanks.

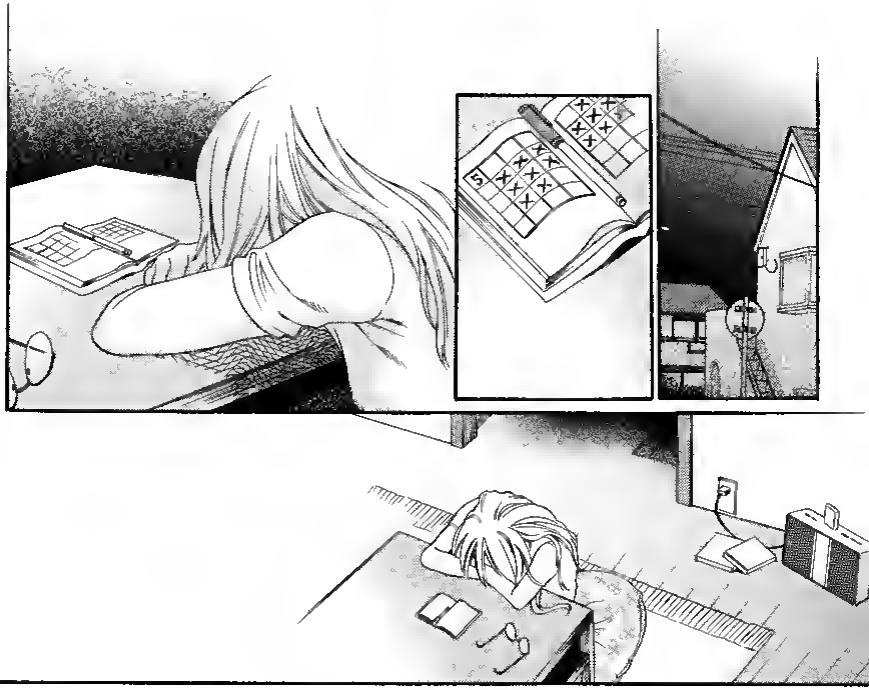
I wonder how she's doing.
Hitomi hasn't been by in a while.
Is she still going out drinking with her classmates?
She should stop pushing herself to drink so much.
And besides,
she's a bad judge of character when it comes to guys. She chooses them based on looks,
and she isn't very careful, so guys just fool around with her.

The guys who are only after her body

don't understand her at all.

I REALLY WANT THINGS TO WORK OUT WITH THIS ONE

MY RELATIONSHIPS NEVER LAST LONG.
BUT I ALWAYS THINK "THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT THIS TIME."
YOU ALWAYS SAY THAT
SHORTLY BEFORE YOU COME CRYING TO ME ABOUT YOUR BREAKUP



She said she'd come stay over.

Her nails must be a mess by now.

EVER SINCE THAT DAY, ALL I CAN THINK OF ARE AWFUL THINGS—

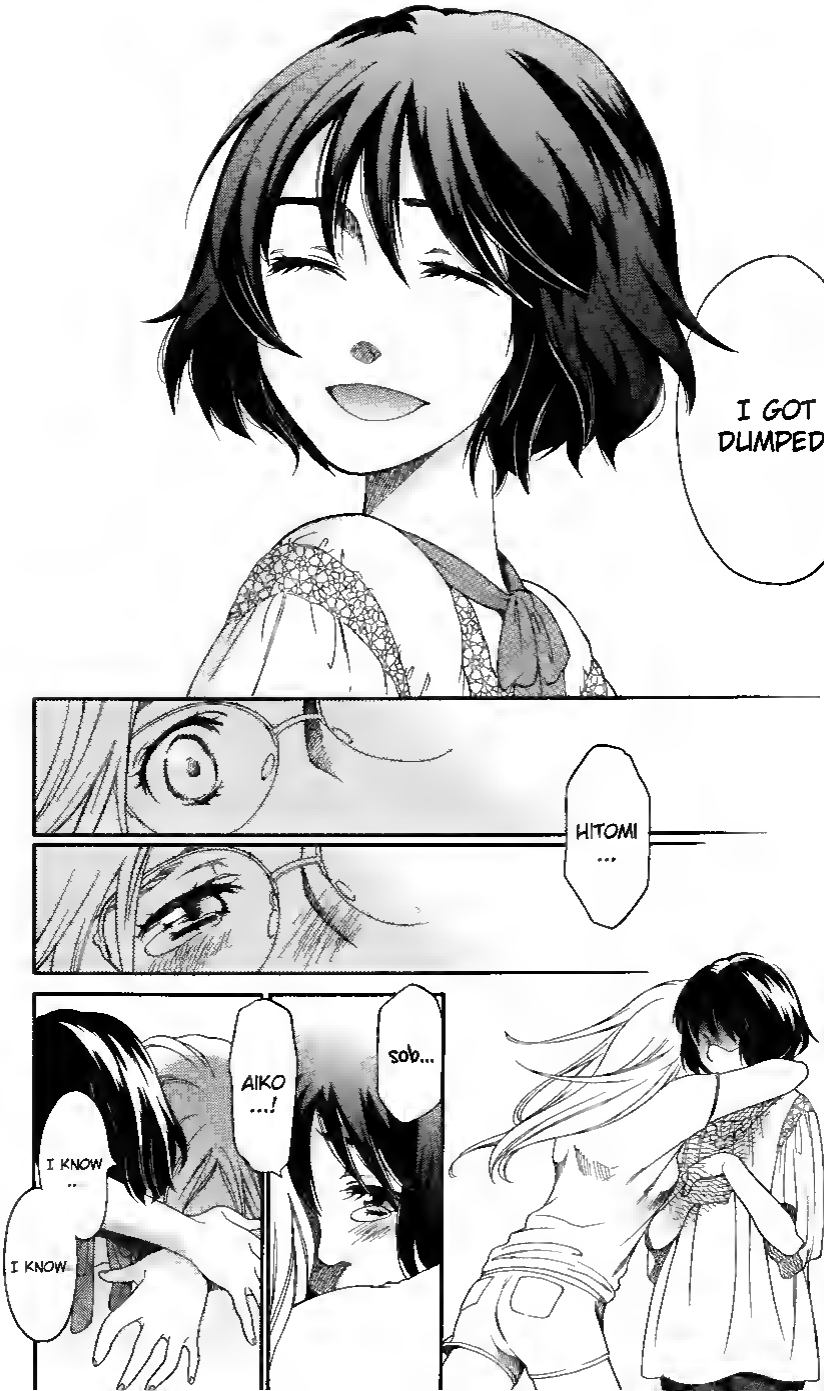
things
...
Aw-
ful
No,
Hitomi.
I really
want things
to work
out with
this one.
I don't
want
that. I
don't...
They
can't.
They
just
can't!

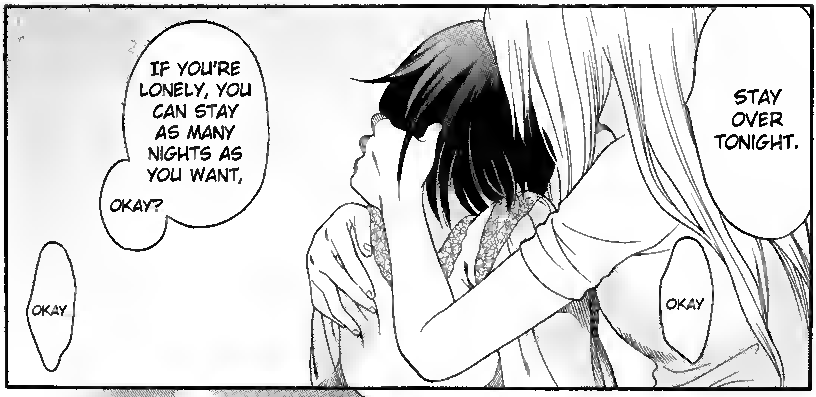
DING DOOOONG
DING DONG
DING DONG
DING DOONG
K-CHK-
OH,
PHEW!
I WAS AFRAID YOU WEREN'T HOME.

When Hitomi...

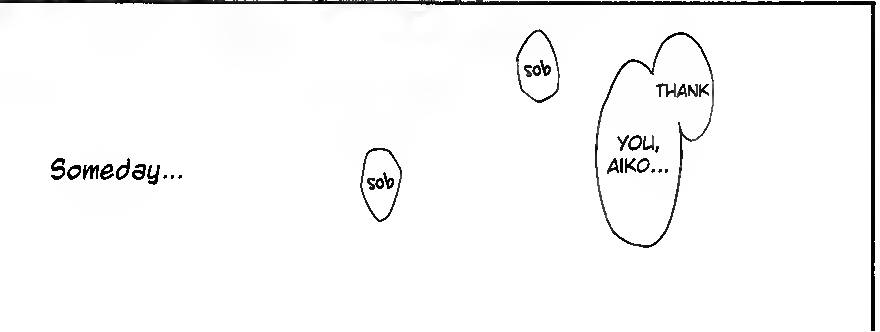
drops by like this,

it's usually because she wants to talk about something.


I GOT DUMPED.
HITOMI ...
sob...
AIKO ...!
I KNOW ..
I KNOW


STAY OVER TONIGHT.
OKAY
IF YOU'RE LONELY, YOU CAN STAY AS MANY NIGHTS AS YOU WANT, OKAY?
OKAY

LET'S ALWAYS BE TOGETHER, HITOMI.
sob... sob...


Someday...
sob
sob
THANK YOU, AIKO...

someday

I'll be punished.

Because I can't wish for the happiness of someone who means so much to me.

I WOULD SUFFER A THOUSAND PUNISHMENTS FOR HER.

Hitomi.

I love you,

END

Heart Ablaze

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つぼみ

あまくてやさしい、百合アンソロジー

vol.2

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